

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



62.23

JUN 8 1924

1923 Annual Descriptive Catalogue
of
FARM SEEDS



Grand Prairie Seed Farm

H. Z. O'HAIR, Proprietor.
Z. P. and E. L. O'HAIR, Associate Mgrs.

BUSHTON, Coles County, ILLINOIS



FOREWORD

DEAR FRIENDS:

As has been our custom for the past 14 years, we again present to you our Annual Descriptive Catalog and we ask that you read all we have to say relative to the Seeds and Breeding Stock that we have listed herein.

We have never had a better grade of Seed Corn than we have for the Planters at the present time. Our Seed Corn was all selected from the Stalk, and not from the wagon box, or from the pile, as is often done by some people who offer Seed Corn for sale. Neither was our Seed selected from the early maturing ears early in the season, for the reason that those ears often show early maturity, from the fact that the ears are diseased. We selected the well-matured and well-formed ears when the time came to select the Seed. No greater mistake could be made than to go through the field (of 110 day corn) and select the ears that show maturity, at say, 90 or 100 days, and pick the ears that were matured and save them for seed. They are the diseased ears, or are not true to the variety.

Our seed corn is as dry as you would expect; in fact, it was too dry to handle with elevator, as many ears that came down through the chutes would be entirely shelled off, and we were compelled to put the corn in the bins by hand. You need have no fears about the Germination—it's all you could ask or expect.

You can depend on our Seed, for we are in the business to stay and not in one year and out the next. We want your trade and we assure you that if we receive your orders we will use our best endeavors to give you what you buy, and keep you as a regular customer by fair and honest treatment.

Please remember that we are headquarters for Fancy Broom Corn Seed. We grow our seed right here on our own farm in Central Illinois, and know what we are offering. No guess work with us. We can furnish you a bushel or a car load of the very finest, triple cleaned Broom Corn Seed to be had. Our Broom Corn Seed has had the regular smut treatment.

We have a fine herd of Chester White Swine, also a herd of Big Type Poland China Swine, that would interest you.

We guarantee satisfaction or money back.

Introductory

Grand Prairie Seed Farm is located in Coles County, Illinois, eight miles north of Charleston, the county seat, and one mile north of Bushton, a thriving little town on the Clover Leaf Railroad.

No section in the United States is better favored from every standpoint, for raising strong, vital prolific field grains than is Central Illinois.

Here the greatest essentials for a proper seed bed to raise seed with germinating power are found—a loamy, fertile soil.

The writers began by selling seed corn in a small way. Later a seed house was erected and the seed corn was selected with greater care, and then came the breeding plats, and each year more room was made for the storing and drying and caring for seed. The writers are the largest Seed Corn and Broom Seed breeders and growers. We have one of the largest and most modern seed corn houses to be found anywhere. There are 70 doors, windows and openings in this mammoth house where the grain has the very best ventilation. During the extreme cold weather, heat is supplied and the germs are not impaired.

Right here we wish to call your attention to the fact, that on this farm the Chester White and Big Type Poland China Swine are bred and raised and sent direct to the breeder. Each one a pure bred and papers furnished.

We have one of the best equipped farms to be found anywhere, and we are constantly improving our methods in business as well as the quality of our seeds. Our large and constantly growing trade is evidence that we are succeeding, and we now present to you our Annual Descriptive Catalog, and wish to thank all our friends and patrons for their past patronage; and hope the New Year will bring to all much happiness and prosperity. Yours very truly,

H. Z. O'HAIR, Proprietor.

Z. P. & E. L. O'HAIR, Associate Mgrs.

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM

Our responsibility.—As this catalog will go into the hands of many who are not acquainted with us, this question will naturally arise, and as to our responsibility, integrity and straightforward manner of doing business, we will refer you to the First National Bank, and the National Trust Bank of Charleston, Illincis, also the Rardin State Bank, Rardin, Illinois.

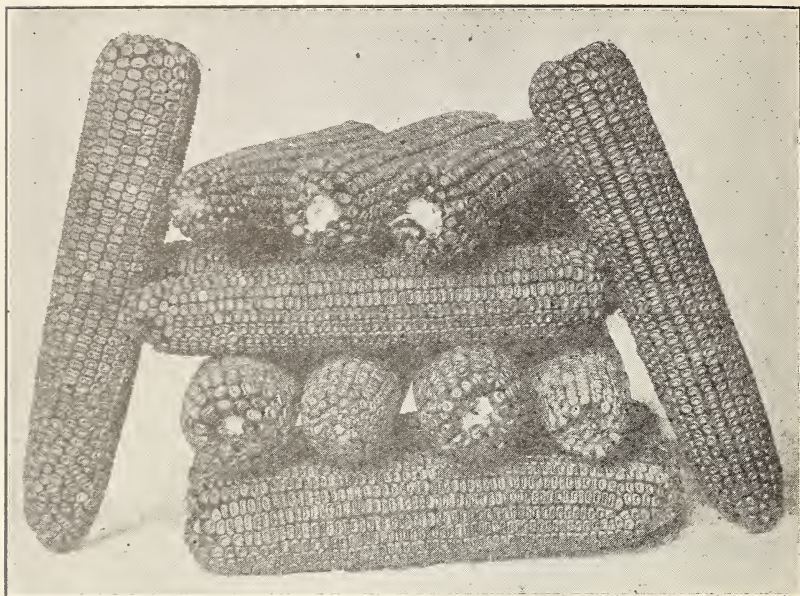
WARRANTY, TERMS, ETC.

While we exercise the greatest care to have our seeds pure, true and reliable, we do not give any warranty, expressed or implied, and in no way will we be responsible for the growth or crop. If the seeds are not fully satisfactory, they must be returned to us at once, and money will be refunded.

All of our goods are shipped subject to your approval on arrival.

Upon receipt of the shipment, examine them and test them to your entire satisfaction, and if for any reason you are not pleased with them, repack and return the same to us at *our expense*, and we will refund the money paid for the same. Our seeds are right, we know it, and we stand back of them, and you are absolutely protected, and will get what you buy. Furthermore you have 10 or 15 days in which to test them.

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM



O'HAIR'S YELLOW DENT

O'Hair's Yellow Dent is one of the finest varieties that is being grown. It is a trifle larger than Reid's and is equally as early. It has from 18 to 22 rows of kernels, closely set on cob, cob being well filled at both ends. This is a variety of my own breeding, a cross from Reid's Yellow Dent onto Benton's Long Yellow. If you want a large yellow corn that will make you bushels at husking time, order this. We are sure this is the finest variety of yellow corn to be had. Order it and you will be pleased with the results. Season 110 days. Prices:

Ear corn\$2.50 per bushel

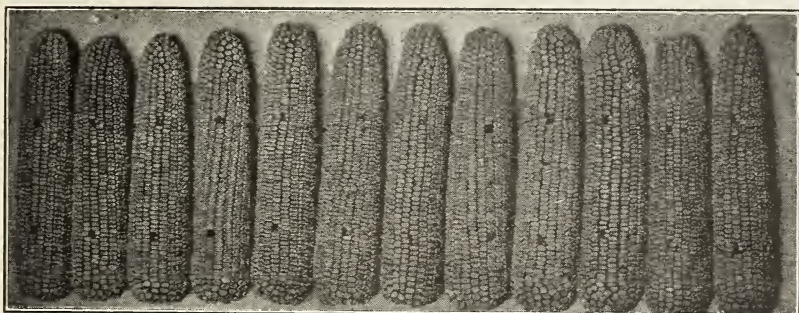
Corn shelled and graded.....\$2.50 per bushel

Crates 50 cents extra ; Bags free

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM

Remember, we not only guarantee the seeds to be good, but we guarantee you to be satisfied with them, and if for any cause you are not, return them to us at our expense.

Remittances must accompany each order. Send remittances by bank draft, P. O. order, express order, or check. Stamps taken for less than \$1. Bags (cotton) market price. Heavy Jute bags, market price, unless otherwise specified. Prices F. O. B. Bushton, Illinois. We make every effort to fill orders promptly. If you wish to hold your order in our seed house until planting time, please advise us to that end.



IMPROVED REID'S YELLOW DENT

The corn is light golden in color. The ears are from 9 to 11 inches long, 18 to 22 rows of kernels on an ear, small cob and shank, grain close together, no lost space between rows, and cob well covered. In uniformity, development of butts and tips, percentage of shelled corn and vigor of growth, this variety cannot be excelled by any yellow corn. It is an excellent variety to plant over a wide latitude. Season 110 days. Prices:

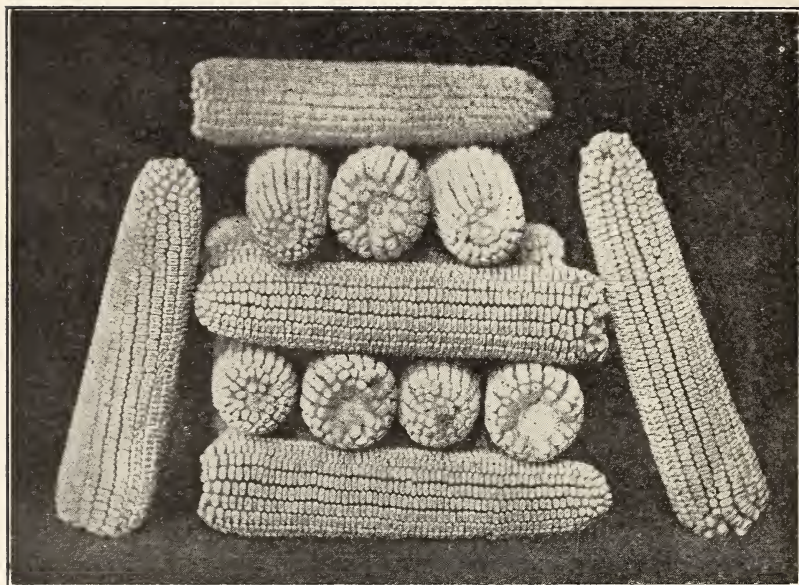
Ear corn \$2.50 per bushel

Corn shelled and graded \$2.50 per bushel

Crates 50 cents extra; Bags free

Page Five

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM



O'HAIR'S HIGH YIELDING BOONE COUNTY WHITE

This famous corn has made a record for big yields that has never been reached by any other variety. There are other good varieties of white corn, but this is immense corn. A few years ago this corn seemed a little too late, but we have taken a great deal of pains to breed this corn to a point where it can be planted with safety. Don't be afraid to order this if you want to raise a bumper crop. Ears from 9 to 11 inches long and weighing from one to one and three-fourths pounds at husking time. Good depth of grain and moderately rough. Matures from 110 to 120 days.

Ear corn \$2.50 per bushel

Corn shelled and graded \$2.50 per bushel

Crates 50 cents extra; Bags free

Page Six

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM



O'HAIR'S WHITE DENT

This is a very fine variety of corn. It has many of the characteristics of Reid's only it is white. It is sound and firm. Ears are uniform, grains deep and close on the cob, cob white, 18 to 24 rows, ears 9 to 11 inches long, good stalks and rank grower. Matures in about 110 days.

No finer variety of white corn could be had than this. Order it, it will please you in quality and crop.

We frankly say there is no better white corn than this.

Ear corn \$2.50 per bushel

Corn shelled and graded \$2.50 per bushel

Crates 50 cents extra ; Bags free

Page Seven

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM



O'HAIR'S 100-DAY YELLOW DENT

The highest yielding early corn in existence. We have for several years been breeding this corn and so selecting the seed as to make it earlier, yet retain its high yielding qualities. The ears are generally 8 to 9 inches long and 16 to 20 rows of kernels. We firmly believe that O'Hair's 100-Day Yellow Dent is the highest yielding early corn in existence.

Ear corn \$2.50 per bushel

Corn shelled and graded \$2.50 per bushel

Crates 50 cents extra ; Bags free

Page Eight



DATE RECEIVED

ORDER SHEET FOR

CHOICE FARM SEED

FROM H. Z. O'HAIR, PROP.

GRAND: PRAIRIE: SEED: FARM

DATE SHIPPED

Order No

Checked by

BUSHTON, ILLINOIS

SEED HOUSE ON THE FARM ONE MILE NORTH OF BUSHTON, ILL.

Shipped by

FILL BLANKS BELOW ONLY

FILL BLANKS BELOW ONLY

H. Z. O'HAIR: Please ship the following goods on terms and conditions stated in your general catalogue:

AMOUNT ENCLOSED

Date

P. O. Order

Express Order

Check

Draft

Cash

Stamps

Total

Shall we ship by Mail, Freight or Express?

Name

Post Office

Box No. R. F. D. No. P. O. Box

Street No. State

Shipping point if different from Post Office

All seeds are selected with the greatest care, but we give no warranty either expressed or implied. We do not guarantee any of them, nor will be responsible for the crop and growth, and it is hereby agreed that the buyer accepts the goods upon these conditions.—H. Z. O'HAIR, *Proprietor*.

QUANTITY

NAME OF SEEDS WANTED

PRICE

DOLLARS

CENTS

From.....
P.O.....
State.....

*Our friends please remember that we
are growers and distributors of all
farm seeds, and will be pleased to send
our catalogue to any of your friends.*

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



Farm is located 1 mile north
of the T. St. L. & Western
Railroad.

Grand Prairie Seed Farm

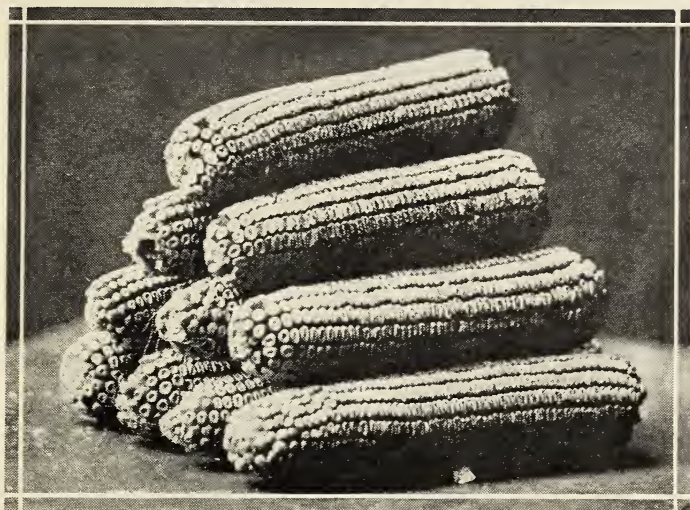
*1871-1923 Fifty-two Years of Corn and Broom Corn
Growing in Illinois*

Bushton,

Coles Co.

Illinois

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM



GOLDEN YELLOW DENT OR GOLDEN EAGLE

We grew here on our farm a fine lot of this Golden Eagle Seed Corn which will mature in 90 days, and is as fine corn as we have ever produced. The ears are very similar to 100-Day Yellow Dent, although the kernels are larger and thicker, and in fact we know it to be the finest 90-Day Corn to be had. Besides, it will yield from 50 to 70 bushels to the acre, according to soil and season.

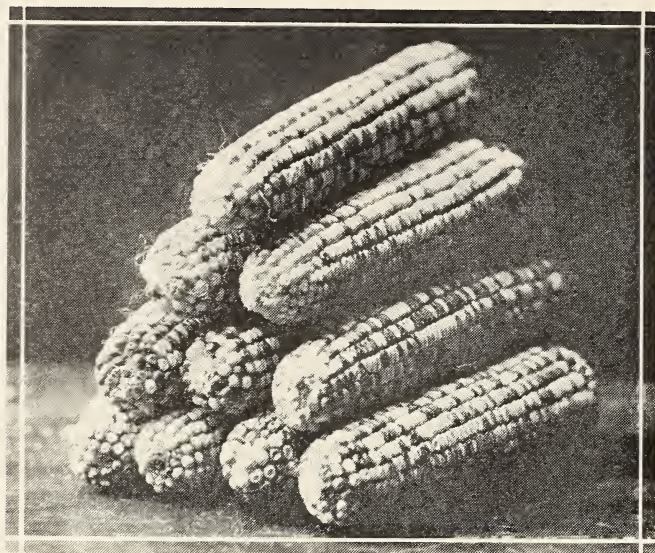
Ear corn\$2.50 per bushel

Corn shelled and graded\$2.50 per bushel

Crates 50 cents extra ; Bags free

Page Nine

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM



UP-TO-DATE CALICO

This corn we grew the past season and the crop was very satisfactory in every way. The ears are from 9 to 11 inches long, deep grains, medium cob, medium rough, and the corn is mottled red, white and yellow. Rich in protein, stalks strong and thrifty. It makes heavy yields, and matures in 100 to 110 days. If you are a feeder you will make no mistake in getting a start of this great yielding and great feeding variety of corn. You will like it in every way.

Ear corn\$2.50 per bushel

Corn shelled and graded\$2.50 per bushel

Crates 50 cents extra ; Bags free

Page Ten

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM



CHINCH BUG AND DROUTH RESISTANT CORN

This corn has peculiar characteristics, and there is no doubt about it withstanding Drouth and the ravages of Chinch Bugs. The ears are from 8 to 10 inches long, corn is white and has white cob, and the grains are very hard and flinty. This is often known as Democrat Corn, and is widely advertised as such. The field in which our corn was grown had wheat on two sides of it, and the bugs invaded the field, and the stalks were black with bugs; however, this field made 40 bushels to the acre, and the corn is firm, flinty and solid. If you live in a locality infested with bugs, try some of this corn. Prices:

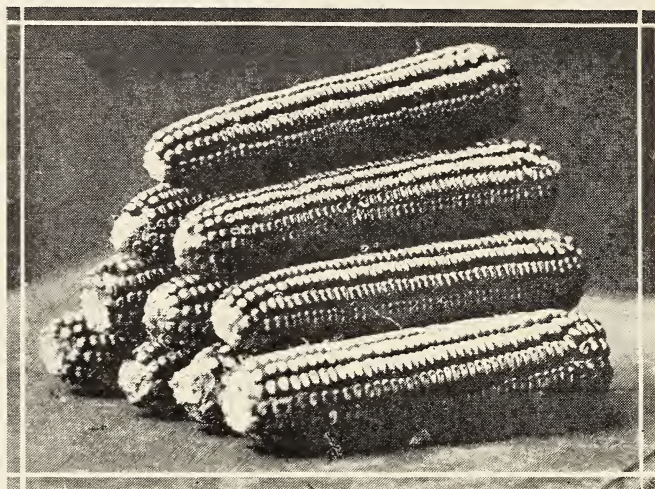
Ear corn\$3.00 per bu.

Shelled and Graded Corn\$3.00 per bu.

Crates 50 cents extra: Bags free

Page Eleven

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM



RED RIVER CORN

This is a Red Corn with Red Cob. The ears are of medium size, and are from 8 to 10 inches long, with small cob. The grains are thick and heavy. If you want a corn that will mature early, order this, for it's the earliest variety we have, and it often happens that you wish to plant a field late in the season, so you will find this variety suited to such occasions. This is too old and too well known a variety to need any description whatever. Prices:

Ear corn\$2.50 per bushel

Corn shelled and graded\$2.50 per bushel

Crates 50 cents extra; Bags free

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM

SWINE

It is again with pleasure that we announce to you that we have two fine herds of Swine. One is a herd of Big Bone Smooth Poland Chinas; the other a herd of O. I. C.'s and Chester Whites. They are the long stretchy kind, with good backs, feet and bone, with wide open eyes, and stand on their feet like pigs. If you are in the market for a good gilt or gilts or a herd boar, it will be to your interest to write us, telling us just what you want, and we will use our best endeavors to supply you with the kind that will please you in every way.

We want to say to you fairly, that we have never had an altercation with anyone over any shipment in our 20 years of breeding, and we are in position to furnish you just what we are representing to you that we have. There are many ways to get money, but we want to say to you that we know only one way to do business, and that is to give you 100 per cent on each dollar invested in any of our output. Give us a trial order and we will show to you that we know how to give a square deal, and to hold a customer when we have him.

Our motto is: "It pays to breed the best," and we are doing it.

Crate and Shelled Corn

When corn is to be shelled, the tip or small end of the ear is taken off, which removes the small inferior kernels. It then passes through the sheller into a hopper below, and then is carried by an elevator to the third story of the building where it is again caught in a hopper. It is then passed down through a grader made for that special purpose, taking out with the first separation the dust and chaff and round and butt kernels, with the second operation the thin or flat kernels, and then it is ready for the edge drop, or whole hill planters, which insures a uniform stand. Ear corn and shelled corn at the same price.

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM

THE SEED

DEAR CUSTOMER:

We are very much pleased with the time and manner in putting up our seed for the coming year's trade. Long before the freeze came, we had many men in the field picking the seed; selecting the best matured, and most uniform ears, and they were immediately taken to the house and stored, and we are sure that no one ever had better seed than we have to offer to the trade. Many hundreds of bushels of Seed Corn was selected and stored in this manner, in fact all the seed we have was so selected and stored, and we are sure it is as good or better than we have ever had. This seed is all stored in this mammoth seed house, where it has the very best of ventilation, as there are 70 doors and windows in this mammoth structure that are kept open in good weather, and when the cold freezing weather comes the necessary heat is supplied and none of the germs are injured by sudden changes in the temperature.

In selecting the most uniform and typical ears are selected. Here in the house they remain until winter when it is again picked over and all ears examined and all faulty ones thrown out.

We prefer to sell the corn in the ear, but will shell it, and grade it ready for the planter box if you so desire. The ear corn and the shelled and graded or sized corn is the same price. Bags and crates for corn are extra.

We guarantee that nothing but large, fully matured ears go into the shelled corn, and that it will germinate as well and grow as much corn to the acre as the ear corn.

If you want corn for the breeding plat, you must have ear corn.

We have some very fancy seed and for this grade of seed we charge \$7.50 per bushel, and have customers who order for their entire planting from this class of corn. If you want something fancy, order this, and you will like it, and will not regret your action.

Page Fourteen

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM

Broom Corn Seed

We are the largest Breeders and Growers of Strictly Fancy Seed Corn and Broom Corn Seed in the states.

We grow thousands of bushels of Broom Corn Seed, and grow it especially for the SEED, both Standard and Dwarf varieties.

We furnish SEED in 33 states, as well as in Canada, Mexico, Cuba, Austria, Italy, and South Africa. Our Seed is known the world over, and known as the Fanciest, Cleanest, Purest and Best to be had anywhere, and we have had no trouble in disposing of our entire output for a number of years, due to the above named facts.

If you are going to plant an acreage to Broom Corn, either Standard or Dwarf, you can't afford to neglect writing us and ordering your Seed, regardless of what our prices might be. Sometimes our prices are higher than some unscrupulous Seed Dealers' might be, due to the fact that they sometimes buy *Seed Piles*, and reclean the seed and send them out as first class seed, when in fact they are unfit for planting and should be consigned to the feed bin. Furthermore, we don't raise Cane, Sorghum and Kaffir to be mixed up with our Broom Corn Seed. When you buy Seed of us you buy Pure Seed. All the Broom Corn Seed we plant is thoroughly soaked in Strong Chemicals, and immediately planted, and the Crop we grow is almost absolutely free from Smut. If you should plant the Seed on Smutty land, you of course would have some smut, on account of the Smut sports being in the land. We want to say again, that for both Standard and Dwarf we are headquarters for Fancy Broom Corn Seed.

Everybody knows that the Central Illinois District produces the finest Broom Corn Seed in the WORLD.

We live in and grow all our Broom Corn Seed in the Central Illinois district, and whether or not you live in Mexico, in the Rio Grande Valley, in Oklahoma, in the east or west,

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM

we have the Seed to suit your locality. We know, for we sell in most all parts of the world, and our customers are satisfied the world over.

Watch out for the new variety of Dwarf which will be on the market in a year or so. We are propagating a new variety which will make the western planters sit up and smile as soon as we put the Seed crop on the market. We will not offer it till we have thoroughly tried it out, and know it is the best that can be had.

Write us your wants. Do it now.

IMPROVED TENNESSEE EVERGREEN BROOM CORN SEED

This variety has always been an old time favorite, largely grown in Central Illinois and extensively grown in western states as well as in the Rio Grande Valley.

Our Improved Tennessee Evergreen is much superior in many ways to the old time Tennessee we grew years ago. The brush is of extra fine quality (fiber) with full tips, and plenty of length.

This variety is very much liked by broom makers, as there is very little waste. If you have fertile land, it's a fine variety and will make the tonnage, with quality.

Price \$7.50 per bushel of 48 pounds. Bags free.

WHITE ITALIAN BROOM CORN SEED

When you want yield and a fine crop, you will never get any variety that will excel this. In a $19\frac{3}{4}$ acre field in 1922, Earl Murphy of Charleston, Illinois, grew 24,630 pounds of brush, making a little more than 1,500 pounds to the acre. If you want a big yield and fine quality, you should not overlook this variety.

Price \$7.50 per bushel of 48 pounds. Bags free.

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM

AUSTRIAN

We have been growing this variety for 13 years. We have hundreds of customers who will not plant any other variety. It is noted for its long, green, hurl brush. If you want to grow long hurl, order this. If your land is a little worn, and somewhat thin, you will like this variety better than the Tennessee Evergreen. For the above kind of land we always recommend this variety or the White Italian.

Price \$7.50 per bushel. Bags free.

BLACK JAPANESE EVERGREEN BROOM CORN SEED

This is a standard variety, and grows about the same in height as the Tennessee Evergreen. The brush grows from 18 to 22 inches in length, and is of the very finest, silkiest fibre we have ever seen. The brush grows plump at tips and the factories like this brush, as there is so little waste in the making of brooms. Another thing about this variety, the brush will not turn red in color, even though the brush is allowed to stand for weeks after it is ready to cut, but will be a dark green color.

The variety is being extensively grown for the reasons given above, besides it is an excellent yielder, full tips on brush, and the fine silky texture is unsurpassed; furthermore, it matures about 15 days earlier than the other standard sorts. Price \$7.50 per bushel. Bags free.

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM

SCARBAUGH DWARF BROOM CORN SEED

We have a limited amount of Strictly Fancy Scarbaugh Dwarf Broom Corn Seed that we grew here on our farm in Central Illinois, and if you want the best Dwarf Seed that has ever been produced, order this seed.

If this variety is planted thick, it is the ideal variety for growing Whisk Brush.

We have discontinued growing Evergreen Dwarf, from the fact that the Scarbaugh is much finer brush and grows longer and is better in every way.

Some Seedsman haven't even found out that the Scarbaugh Dwarf has eclipsed all other Dwarf varieties, they being so set in their ways of following the old rut.

While we are offering the Scarbaugh Dwarf, and as the best variety on the market today, yet we want you to watch out and write us later about our new variety of Dwarf which we are propagating and which will be on the market as soon as we have reached the point of perfection, so that we can stand behind the product. We are well on our way in the propagation of the new variety, and when we put the Seed on the market, we will have overcome the great obstacle in the production of first class brush of the Dwarf variety.

Order your supply for this year's planting of the Scarbaugh. It's fine.

Price \$7.50 per bushel of 48 pounds. Bags free.

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM

BROOM CORN CULTURE AND INFORMATION

Broom Corn belongs to the same family as cane or sorghum. Good results are obtained on the best black corn land and does well on thinner soils. In preparing the soil, careful attention should be given to get a good seed bed, fall or early spring breaking being preferable. In Central Illinois, planting is generally begun by May fifteenth and generally done by the twentieth of June. In Southern Texas planting is often begun in February and March and the general rule is not to plant until the land has warmed up pretty well, having plenty of heat in the land to shove the young plants as fast as possible as it grows rather slowly until the plants are about six inches high. There is no set rule for planting, as to time, only as indicated above. We have many customers in Missouri, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Arkansas, Mississippi, as well as hundreds of customers in Illinois, and in fact we have customers in 33 states, and it would be impossible for us to tell just when to plant for best results, only as indicated above. Here in Central Illinois we plant 60 to 70 seed to the rod, but in other places thicker planting is desired and for the information of those who do not understand the amount required to plant an acre or the amount of land that one bushel of clean seed will plant, we give below a table which will help to determine the amount of seed that will be required:

Drilled in rows 3 feet 4 inches apart, 40 seeds to the rod plants 34 acres.

Fifty seed to the rod plants 27 acres; 60 seed plants 20 acres; 70 seed plants 18 acres; 80 seed plants 16½ acres; 90 seed plants 14¾ acres; 100 seed plants 13¼ acres; 110 seed plants 11 acres, and 120 seed plants 10 acres.

You should get seed that is good, and from some reliable grower and plant only about the required number of seed that you want stalks (just a little more) and you will have much better success than you will have to plant the seed so thick that you will hardly have a good decent brush in the crop. Sixty to 70 seed per rod is generally planted to obtain best results in Central Illinois.

GRAND PRAIRIE SEED FARM

Where whisk corn is raised it is advisable to plant some thicker than is ordinarily done. Broom corn is raised and thrives and does well over a wider range of country than any other crop with which we are familiar. We have made large shipments of broom corn seed to the Rio Grande country in South Texas, and they were so satisfactory that the orders continue to come each year.

In a large part of the broom corn growing district, sheds are built especially for the curing of the brush, after it is threshed, and this is the only way that a passable grade of brush can be had in many parts of the country, but we realize that in many parts of the country it is almost impossible to have and to maintain sheds for this purpose, for various reasons. Every broom corn grower knows his conditions and circumstances better than we do, but we want to urge you to handle the broom corn with all care possible, preserve that fine green color and silky texture and not allow it to remain in the field for days and days after it is pulled or cut and lose one-half of the real value of the brush. You have no doubt noticed in the past that brush buyers were more anxious to buy some crops than others, and for the sole reason that some men handle their brush better than others, and are rightly entitled to a better price, for their diligence and care. You may have a bad growing season and may have an excessive amount of rain just at harvest time, which may prevent you from having the quality so much desired; but if the season was favorable all through from planting time to the day of finishing the crop in the bale, your crop wouldn't be the kind you most desired if you planted inferior seed.

There is no place in the world, that we know of, where Broom Corn Seed is grown so extensively and kept so pure as here in Central Illinois. We grow five varieties of broom corn for the seed—Improved Tennessee Evergreen, Austrian, White Italian, Black Japanese Evergreen and Scarbaugh Dwarf. The Improved Tennessee Evergreen is the variety generally grown in the Western States, where a standard variety is wanted, and grows a very fine long brush; although the Black Japanese Evergreen is becoming very popular.

